



State of Arizona

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 25, 2013

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Governor Jan Brewer Announces Appointments to State Parks Board

PHOENIX – Governor Jan Brewer today announced the appointments of Mark Brnovich and R.J. Cardin to the Arizona State Parks Board.

“Mark and R.J. are dedicated public servants with a diversity of experience that will benefit users of Arizona’s beautiful system of State Parks,” said Governor Brewer. “Mark is well-versed in the law, and has spent years working to help government operate more efficiently. R.J. has invested his career in parks and recreation, so he’s well-prepared to confront the challenges and opportunities facing State Parks. Together, both men will help ensure Arizona’s thirty state parks remain crown jewels for the people to enjoy.”

Since 2009, Mr. Brnovich has been Director of the Arizona Department of Gaming. Previously, he was an Assistant U.S. Attorney with the District of Arizona (2007-'09); Senior Director of State Customer Relations for Corrections Corporation of America (2005-'07); Judge Pro Tem for the Maricopa County Superior Court (2004-'08); and Director of the Center for Constitutional Government at the Goldwater Institute (2003-'05); Assistant Attorney General (1998-2003); and Deputy County Attorney for the Maricopa County Attorney's Office (1992-1998).

Mr. Brnovich earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of San Diego School of Law (1991), and graduated cum laude from Arizona State University with a bachelor's in Political Science (1988).

Mr. Cardin's career in parks and recreation spans 25 years. He has been Director of the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department since 2006, a role in which he is responsible for all facets of parks operations and development for the Nation's largest regional park system.

Earlier, Mr. Cardin worked as: Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Glendale (2001-'06); Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Sioux City, Iowa (1998-2001); Chief of Park Operations (1998), Chief of Research and Marketing (1994-'98) and Recreation Planner (1991-'94) for Arizona State Parks; Research Assistant for the Department of Recreation Management and Tourism at Arizona State University (1989-'91); General Manager of the Ballard Golf and Country Club in Huxley, Iowa (1988-'89); and Manager of Operations at Sheldon Country Club in Sheldon, Iowa (1986-'88).

Mr. Cardin holds a Master of Science in Recreation Management and Tourism from ASU (1993), as well as a Bachelor's of Science in both Recreation Management and Business Administration from Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa (1987).

Mr. Brnovich joins the Arizona State Parks Board for a term that expires in January 2019; he replaces Tracey Jo Westerhausen. Mr. Cardin replaces William C. Scalzo on the Board, and will serve until January 2017. Both appointments require Senate confirmation.

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